

Mackay House Remains  
Lot #6, North Ward,  
Town of Frederica, St. Simons Island,  
Glynn County, Georgia.

HABS No.  
GA 2148

HABS  
GA  
64-FRED  
6-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction  
120 South Third Street  
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

MACKAY HOUSE REMAINS

Street Address or Location: Lot #6, North Ward, Town of Frederica,  
St. Simons Island, Glynn County, Georgia

Present Owner: Fort Frederics National Monument,  
Box 367, St. Simons Island, Georgia

Brief Statement of Significance: One of the more substantial houses built by  
the original settlers of Fort Frederica about  
1740.

HABS  
GA  
64-FRED  
6-

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Original and subsequent owners: Daniel Cannon, arrived Frederica February, 1735-36. The Cannons left Frederica c. 1741. Daniel's son, Joseph, sold this lot to Captain James Mackay of Oglethorpe's Regiment.
2. Date of erection: Unknown
3. Notes on alterations and additions: At one time in the early years of the house the doorway on the north side was sealed off with a brick wall.

Source: Dr. Joel Shiner, USNPS Archseologist. Personal interview. Also, typescript, Lot 6 North Ward, at Fort Frederica National Monument, Box 367, St. Simons Island, Ga.

- B. Historical Events Connected with the Structure: North Ward Lot #6 was granted to Daniel Cannon, who, with his two sons Joseph and Daniel, was among the first settlers at Frederica. They were carpenters and builders. It is known that they worked on the Davison House, Lot #2, South Ward. They later obtained a farm at the Northern extremity of the island, now called Cannon's Point. They left Frederica in 1741 and settled in Charleston, South Carolina. After Daniel died, his son Joseph sold the lot to Captain James Mackay, who had come to Frederica in 1736 as a career soldier. He served with Oglethorpe and later with George Washington. His home at Frederica was a social center, and a gala St. Andrew's Day party was held in it in 1745.

Source: Margaret Davis Cate, Sea Island, Georgia, typescript, Notes On Broad Street Lots, Town of Frederica, Georgia, St. Simons Island, 1957. There is a copy at Fort Frederica Nstional Monument, Box 367, St. Simons Island, Georgia.

Prepared by Lionel J. Bienvenu - May, 1958

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: Only the tabby foundations remain of this original settler's house.
2. Condition of Fabric: Foundations only; nothing left above grade. Stabilized May, 1958. Walls and brick capped.

B. Technical Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: 32'-6" x 22'-4 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
2. Foundations: Tabby from basement floor, 2'0" below Colonial grade.
3. Wall construction: Unknown
4. Chimneys: At least one, brick.
5. Openings: Wood frame doorways
6. Roof: No evidence

C. Technical Description of Interiors:

1. Floor plans: Basement - rectangular
2. Stairways: Two stairways from grade to basement, rear one of brick with 4" x 4" wood nosings mortised through cheeks. Brick rubble, brick sill and opening in tabby foundation wall are only indication of front steps. No evidence of stairways to upper floors.
3. Flooring: One section (25%) of basement floor is fine shell tabby mortar still intact. Rest has been broken into rubble. About 1800 whole brick, brick bats, whole quarries, and quarry fragments were laid dry in a random pattern and rough manner on the floor.
4. Hardware: Found in excavation: several forged nails, several spikes, one large bolt, two large staples, and several strap iron fragments (all of iron).
5. Heating: One brick fireplace with charred hearth.

- D. Site: House faces south. Situated in Town of Frederica, an old Indian field, flat, 40 acres. Lot #6, North, 60' x 90', short south side fronting on Broad Street, 14' alley to back. Bordered on 90' sides by two like lots.